

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EB-03 L-01 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05

CIAE-00 SP-02 SSO-00 INRE-00 /041 W

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O 091722Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7984

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 3227

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD CO

SUBJ: TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS: NEXT STEPS

1. SUMMARY: CHARGE AND ECONOMIC COUNSELOR MET WITH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MIN RAMIREZ OCAMPO 10 AM APRIL 9 AND PRESENTED SUGGESTED COURSE OF ACTION OUTLINED REFTEL. MIN SAID PROPOSAL WAS CONSTRUCTIVE AND HELPFUL AND THAT HE WOULD TRY TO GIVE US RESPONSE LATE THIS AFTERNOON. END SUMMARY

2. DEVELOPMENT MIN GRANTED OUR REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT IMMEDIATELY AND CHARGE AND ECON COUNS MET WITH HIM AT 10 AM TO PRESENT SUGGESTED COURSE OF ACTION OUTLINED STATE 79667, LEAVING WITH HIM WRITTEN SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS. MIN RESPONDED THAT HE THOUGHT PROPOSAL WAS HIGHLY CONSTRUCTIVE AND THAT IT WOULD GREATLY ASSIST HIM IN CONDUCTING INTERNUI CONSULTATIONS. HE SAID THAHCSUGGESTIONS HAD ARRIVED AT OPPORTUNE MOMENT AS HE HAD MEETING SCHEDULED WITH HIS "GROUP" AT 3:30 THIS AFTERNOON. THE US PROPOSALS WOULD FACILITATE A DECISION. THE MIN SAID HE WOULD TRY TO GET BACK TO US WITH A RESPONSE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE MEETING, HOPEFULLY BY 5 PM.

3. WITH RELATION TO SUBSTANCE OF US PROPOSAL MINISTER
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INDICATED SOME CONCERN OVER LOCATING POSSIBLE FUTURE MEETING

IN GENEVA. IF ADDITIONAL DISCUSSIONS ON MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING WERE NECESSARY HE STRONGLY FAVORED HOLDING THEM IN BOGOTA. THE MINISTER SAID HE COULD NOT LEAVE BOGOTA IN FORESEEABLE FUTURE AND THAT ALTHOUGH HE HAD FULL CONFIDENCE IN HIS NEGOTIATOR ALBERTO GALEANO UNLESS GOC DEL HAD IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO MINISTER IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO RESOLVE ANY DEADLOCKS THAT MIGHT ARISE. HE NOTED IT HAD REQUIRED HIS DIRECT INTERVENTION TO RESOLVE WOOL ISSUE.

4. MINISTER ALSO MUSED ON THE POSSIBILITY OF AGREEING ON SOME KIND OF INTERIM ARRANGEMENT PENDING RESOLUTION OF STATISTICAL DISCREPANCY. WE NOTED THAT (A) MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING IN EFFECT CONSTITUTED SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT (B) WE WERE STILL SUBJECT TO STRONG INDUSTRY PRESSURE (C) THE PERCENTAGE INCREASES GRANTED COLOMBIA WERE VERY GENEROUS AND (D) THE VIRTUAL CERTAINTY THAT WASHINGTON WOULD NEED TO HAVE SOME KIND OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE OUTLINES OF AN AGREEMENT WHILE THE STATISTICAL DISCREPANCY WAS BEING WORKED OUT. WE TRIED TO MAKE CLEAR TO MINISTER THAT IN OUR OPINION WASHINGTON COULD NOT ACCEPT AN ARRANGEMENT THAT WOULD SIMPLY CONCENTRATE ON THE STATISTICAL DISCREPANCY WITHOUT ANY UNDERSTANDING ON WHAT WOULD HAPPEN AFTERWARDSBN WE THINK HE UNDERSTOOD THIS.

5. ALL IN ALL MINISTER SEEMED HIGHLY PLEASED TO HAVE US SUGGESTIONS. WE WILL SEND HIS RESPONSE BY IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM AS SOON AS WE HAVE IT.
WHITE

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